



Newport Yacht Club

Since 1894

41°29'17"N 71°18'45"W

2023 COMMUNITY BENEFIT PLAN

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OVERVIEW

The purpose of the Newport Yacht Club Community Benefit Plan (CBP) is to identify, plan and measure the Club's positive impact on the larger community of which we are a part.

The plan addresses four areas of impact:

- Maritime Community and Economy
- Youth and Adult Education
- Environmental Stewardship
- Civic Collaboration

The plan is updated annually, under the guidance of the Flag Officers and with the participation of staff members and committee chairpersons. The process is guided by an ad hoc Community Benefit Committee appointed by the Commodore.

AREAS OF IMPACT

GOAL AREA 1.0: MARITIME COMMUNITY AND ECONOMY

Newport, the "City by the Sea", is highly dependent on its harbor front, and the local-to-internationally ranging maritime community for its attractiveness to residents and visitors alike. The Newport Yacht Club seeks to preserve and continually enhance its role in serving the maritime community and ensuring its ongoing contribution to the local economy and quality of life.

Impact Objective: Hosting/Supporting Sailing Events

- Bermuda One-Two: JUNE 2-24
- New England Solo/Twin Race: JULY 28-29
- Gold Star Sailing: AUGUST 1
- Jester Challenge, OSTAR and TwoStar: (Biannually, next 2024)

Impact Objective: Hosting/Supporting Recreational Sailing

Frostbite Racing: JANUARY 1 – MARCH 31

Mitchell Memorial Day Regatta: MAY 27

Tuesday Night One Design Summer Series

- 1st Summer Series: 30 MAY – 11 JULY
- 2nd Summer Series: 18 JULY – 29 AUGUST

Wednesday Night PHRF/Cruising Class Summer Series

- 1st Summer Series: 31 MAY – 12 JULY
- 2nd Summer Series: 19 JULY – 30 AUGUST

Columbus Day Race Date: OCTOBER 7

2022 Impact Objective: Operating an Exceptional Destination Marina

- To PROVIDE well maintained dockage and amenities for transient boaters and to host 500 non-member and 150 member transient boaters, and to assist them with having a highly positive “Newport experience.”
- To meet or exceed the criteria which earn the Club Boaters Choice Awards, Platinum Club Awards and other objective measures of marina quality.

Impact Objective: Supporting Community and Tourism Events

To PROVIDE a facility that supports community-wide events, including:

- Harborwalk access
- Fireworks viewing
- Summer boat parade viewing
- Newport International Boat Show support
- Newport Illuminated Boat Parade viewing
- City guest reception, e.g. Sister City program

Impact Objective: Strengthening Community Infrastructure

To MAINTAIN seawalls, bulkheads, tidal surge abatement dock and waterfront amenities that benefit boaters. The following projects are anticipated subject to approved budget:

- Ongoing routine maintenance, seawall and other structures
- Water outflow management and reporting
- Installation of fire protection system for property
- Relocation and upgrade of dockside pump out station

To PROVIDE infrastructure and other assistance to the Newport Harbormaster, its vessels and personnel, including:

- Ongoing access to facilities including parking, workshop, lifts, berthing
- Collaborative support for harbormaster staff training

GOAL AREA 2.0: YOUTH AND ADULT EDUCATION

Newport's maritime environment provides many recreational and vocational opportunities for local residents. Many of these opportunities are improved when supported by education. The Newport Yacht Club seeks to preserve and enhance its role in providing education on such topics as introduction to boating, boating safety, maritime careers and more for youth and adults, including those who may not have had prior exposure to these experiences.

Impact Objective: Youth Sailing

- To CONDUCT a youth sailing program serving up to 130 youth during the 2023 season.
- To CREATE funding for and provide up to 25 scholarships for Newport youth during the 2023 season.

Impact Objective: Youth and Adult Boating Safety and Environmental Awareness

To FACILITATE Coast Guard Vessel Safety Checks, DEM boating safety education classes and other activities that promote safety during the boating season for members for the Newport boating community.

- Better Bay Alliance Intro to Boating Safety Course (JANUARY 31, FEB 28)
- State Boating Safety Certificate Course: MARCH 14,15,21 & APRIL 18,20,25
- Paddlecraft Safety Courses (APRIL 11 & MAY 23)
- Vessel Safety Checks/DEM Head Inspections/Flare Collection: MAY 20 & 21

Impact Objective: Maritime Jobs/Careers

- To CONDUCT one or more maritime career events in collaboration with RIMTA, IYRS and/or Chamber of Commerce.
- To CONTINUE the ongoing program of taking Newport youth on harbor tours and creating awareness of opportunities for recreation and careers.

GOAL AREA 3.0: ENVIRONMENTAL STEWARDSHIP

The harbor and Bay comprise invaluable and irreplaceable assets which are highly vulnerable to mis-use and the forces of nature. The Newport Yacht Club seeks to preserve and enhance its role as an environmental steward through a comprehensive sustainability program where we will lead by example for members, residents of Newport and visiting boaters from RI, U.S. and around the world.

Impact Objective: Sustainability Plan

The development of a comprehensive sustainability plan is underway at the club which includes the following goals:

- Reduce carbon dioxide equivalent emissions
- Reduce waste from plastic
- Reduce the club's long-term operating costs through reduction of energy use
- Promote sustainability among members and demonstrate the benefits of sustainable practices
- Prepare the club for the impacts of sea level rise from climate change

This will be achieved through a combination of operating practices and capital investments. The club is committed to incorporate a sustainability review into all future capital improvements/projects and will explore partnerships with local organizations in order to accomplish these goals.

Impact Objective: Clean Marina

To MAINTAIN “Clean Marina” Environmental Certification, having been the first yacht club in Rhode Island to achieve this certification, the criteria for which addresses:

- Site Management
- Training and Education
- Waste Management-Recycling and Trash
- Hazardous Waste
- Water Resources-Stormwater, Grey Water and Wastewater
- Air Quality/Pollution
- Fuel Management

To MAINTAIN collaborative relationships with DEM, CRMC and other relevant agencies.

To MAINTAIN environmental emergency readiness and response, spanning training and equipment.

GOAL AREA 4.0: CIVIC COLLABORATION

The Newport community includes many public and non-profit entities working to ensure that Newport is a safe and healthy place to live, work and play for all. The Newport Yacht Club seeks to preserve and enhance its role supporting the City and its departments and our local non-profit community.

Impact Objective: City of Newport Services and Infrastructure

See prior action items related to harbormaster, seawalls and bulkheads, harborwalk and event hosting.

Impact Objective: Update Community and Nonprofit Needs Assessment

To UPDATE the Newport Yacht Club’s understanding of the needs and interests of key Newport agencies and nonprofits, with an emphasis on those that are youth-serving with regard to boating and other on-water recreation and to identify potential areas of collaboration.

Impact Objective: Nonprofit Engagement

To CONTINUE support of nonprofits with which the Club engages, including but not limited to:

- Better Bay Alliance-boating safety
- American Canoe and Kayak Association
- Gold Star Sailing-a program for children of fallen military members
- Warrior Sailing- a program for veterans
- Martin Luther King Jr. Center- a multi-service community organization
- Newport Schools- Provide up to 20 scholarships for students from Newport elementary and middle schools who have never sailed before.

To MAKE AVAILABLE Club facilities when possible for use by marine-related service/nonprofit organizations at no charge during the off season.

#END#